

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 22, 2017

Dear Colleague,

While over 30 million Americans during their lifetime will suffer from an eating disorder, a disease with the highest mortality rate of any psychiatric illness, only one-third will receive any kind of medical treatment. These dismal statistics are a stark reminder of the need for a **House Resolution recognizing a National Eating Disorders Awareness Week**, and we invite you to become an original co-sponsor.

Left untreated, eating disorders, which disproportionally affect women and our military service members, can have life-threatening consequences. However, with early intervention and a community of coordinated care, eating disorder patients can and do recover.

Last December, we worked together and passed the 21st Century Cures Act with overwhelming bipartisan support, which included provisions from the Anna Westin Act. This represented the first time Congress passed legislation specifically designed to help the millions of Americans suffering from an eating disorder. While these measures represent an important first step, more research is needed to train health care professionals, facilitate early intervention treatment, and raise awareness for prevention efforts for those struggling with an eating disorder. If we continue working together, we can build on the progress we made in the 114th Congress.

Join us in our continued effort to deliver treatment before tragedy and care before crisis. Should you have any questions or would like to sign-on, please contact Congressman Tim Murphy's office at (202) 225-2301 or email Andrew.Furman@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Tim Murphy
Member of Congress



G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress